MARVEL 76 .com

EXILES

4

WORLD 2051 TOUR

J. CAMPBELL '05

Previously in EXILES:

Gathered together from their own separate realities, BLINK, SABRETOOTH, MORPH, and HEATHER HUDSON risk their lives to save one imperiled Earth after another. From their headquarters in the "Crystal Palace"—an alien observatory outside space and time overlooking the countless realities that make up the Multiverse—the Exiles undertake their world-saving missions and often pay a terrible price.

Such was the case when they encountered Kevin MacTaggert, the body-snatching, reality-warping mutant codenamed PROTEUS. Taking over the body of Blink's boyfriend MIMIC, Proteus used his nearly limitless powers to jump to new universes and victimize those he encountered there. The Exiles have pursued him across the dimensions ever since.

Now they are in the futuristic world of 2099, where corporations run nations and rampant capitalism is the new law of the urban jungle. Proteus has come seeking super-science to stabilize his energies so that he no longer burns out his host-bodies. Enlisting the help of JORDAN BOONE, a top scientist at the Alchemax Corporation, Proteus demands a new body strong enough to last until they can develop a more permanent "cure" for his condition. At the New York headquarters of Stark-Fujikawa, they find the perfect donor: HULK 2099.

Meanwhile, the Exiles arrive and make contact with Alchemax's top inventor, MIGUEL O'HARA, who is secretly the masked web-slinger, SPIDER-MAN 2099. They join forces to take down Proteus, only to run into his newfound Hulk-level power.

Now the restaurant atop the Stark-Fujikawa building is a seething nightmare of warped reality with a creature of boundless evil and impossible strength at the heart of it. And the greed-driven super-powers of this brave new world--Mega-Corps like Alchemax, Stark-Fujikawa and Pixel--will do anything to control that power and the profits it can reap.

To find Marvel Comics at a local comic shop, call 1-888-COMICBOOK.

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EARTH #928
2099 A.D.

MY NAME IS MIGUEL O'HARA, BETTER KNOWN THESE DAYS AS SPIDER-MAN.

I'M EIGHTY STORIES UP, ACROSS FIFTH AVENUE FROM THE STARK-FUJIKAWA BUILDING, WATCHING A MAJOR MANHATTAN LANDMARK DO ITS DARNDEST TO SCREAM.

THAT...THAT HAS TO BE AN ILLUSION, RIGHT?

IT IS REAL ENOUGH TO KILL US.

WHAT THE SHOCK DID YOU PEOPLE LET LOOSE IN MY CITY...?

WORLD TOUR 2099

CONCLUSION

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CAN YOU GET ME BACK INSIDE?

ARE YOU NUTS, LONGSHOT? YOU CAN'T HOPE TO FIGHT THAT!

I MUST TRY. MY COMRADES ARE STILL IN THERE.

BLINK IS STILL IN THERE.

SHE'S THE TELEPORTER, RIGHT?

STAY PUT!

THWIIIP

THWIIIP

LONGSHOT'S "COMRADES" CALL THEMSELVES *THE EXILES.* I'M STILL DECIDING IF THEY'RE FRIEND OR FOE.

THEY CLAIM TO BE FROM A *PARALLEL UNIVERSE,* AND THEY'VE COME HUNTING THE SCARIEST MUTANT IN *ANY* REALITY...A BODY-SNATCHING SCOTSMAN THEY CALL *"PROTEUS."*

RELAX YOUR BODY!

=OOF= I'LL *RELAX* WHEN PROTEUS IS *DEAD!*

I LOST SIGHT OF MORPH.

THWIIIP

DON'T WORRY ABOUT *HIM.*

SEE?

HEY, LOOK--I MADE A FRIEND.

WHAT IS THAT THING?

PUBLIC EYE CAMERA. THE WORSE THIS SITUATION GETS, THE MORE CAM-BOTS AND SKY TRAFFIC WE'LL ATTRACT.

WE'LL BE ON EVERY NEWSFEED ONLINE IF WE DON'T WRAP THIS UP QUICK.

WHERE'S BLINK?

HE SPAT US OUT, NOT HER.

WHY DIDN'T SHE TELEPORT OUT?

BECAUSE PROTEUS CAN JAM HER...

IF YOU'VE HURT ***SABRETOOTH***, SO HELP ME, I'LL--

HE'S ***FINE***, LUV. YE CAN DROP A CAT FROM ***ANY*** HEIGHT, LONG AS IT LANDS ON ITS ***FEET***.

I JUST WANTED A MINUTE ***ALONE*** WITH YE, I...

I CANNAE STOP ***THINKIN'*** OF YE, BLINK! MAYBE SOME LEFTOVER FEELIN'S ***CALVIN*** HAD--

DON'T YOU ***DARE*** SPEAK HIS NAME--!

YOU MIGHT'VE STOLEN CAL'S MEMORIES WHEN YOU ***MURDERED*** HIM, BUT YOU HAVE NONE OF HIS ***HUMANITY!***

THEN WHY ***DO*** I GET ***BUTTERFLIES*** WHEN I SEE YUIR FACE? WHY...

WAIT. IT'S NOT BUTTERFLIES...IT'S ALL THE ***PEOPLE*** SWARMIN' IN THIS BUILDING...LIKE MAGGOTS...TURNIN' MY ***STOMACH***...

WE ***HAVE*** TO GET CLARICE.

WE HAVE TO MOVE THIS FIGHT OUT OF THE ***CITY!***

UH-OH, GUYS...

...I'VE SEEN THAT FACE BEFORE--ON MY ***PROM DATE*** AFTER TOO MANY JELLO-SHOTS.

THWIP

THWIP

EEEEEYAHHH!

THERE. WE HAVE THE PLACE ALL TAE OURSELVES.

WELL, EXCEPT FOR MY *GUIDE* TAE THIS REALITY...

BOONE...? DINNAE MAKE ME COME *LOOKIN'* FOR YE.

=AHEM= SORRY ABOUT THAT. JUST TRYING TO STAY OUT OF THE WAY.

BLINK, MEET *JORDAN BOONE,* TOP RESEARCH MAN AT A COMPANY CALLED *ALCHEMAX.*

HE HELPED ME FIND THIS *NEW BODY* WHEN THE LAST ONE WORE THIN.

WHO IS *SHE?*

SHE'S SOMEONE I DID A TERRIBLE *WRONG* TAE. I STOLE HER BOYFRIEND'S BODY.

THEY ALWAYS COME LOADED WITH *MEMORIES* AN' *FEELIN'S,* BUT I WASNAE READY FOR THE *DEPTH* OF WHAT CALVIN FELT...

...IT'S BEEN *PREYIN'* ON ME...GROWIN' LIKE A BLOODY VIRUS, SO IT HAS!

BLINK... *CLARICE...*THIS IS THE CLOSEST I'VE *EVER* COME IN MY WHOLE LIFE TAE HAVIN' A *REAL* RELATIONSHIP.

I DINNAE WANT TO *FIGHT* YE ANYMORE. CAN WE JUS'...

CAN WE JUS' *TALK* A WHILE...?

THREE LAYERS OF WEBBING, ANCHORED TO THE NEIGHBORING BUILDINGS.

ONE BY ONE THEY GIVE WAY BENEATH THE CRUSH OF FALLING BODIES.

I HEAR SOME BONES CRUNCH AS THEY HIT THE SILK, BUT AT LEAST THEY'RE ALL *ALIVE*.

MOVE IT!

THAT...WAS NOT AS FUN AS I'D *HOPED*.

STARTIN' TO LOOK LIKE A HORNET'S NEST UP THERE. WHERE'S *LONGSHOT?*

I LEFT HIM ON THE ROOF ACROSS THE STREET...

"...LOOK CLOSELY, AND YOU CAN JUST MAKE HIM OUT UP THERE.

"MAYBE I SHOULD HELP HIM DOWN."

"JUST *WATCH*, KID. LONGSHOT'S GOT A KNACK FOR HELPIN' *HIMSELF* OUTTA JAMS.

"HE'S JUST WAITIN' FOR THE *RIGHT MOMENT*."

"HOLY SHOCK! THAT'S *SUICIDE!*"

"NO...YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT LONGSHOT *DOES*...

"...HE HAS A WAY OF MAKING THE *ODDS LINE UP* IN HIS FAVOR...

"...I GUESS HE WARPS PROBABILITIES, RE-JIGS THE PERCENTAGES OR SOMETHIN'. I DON'T KNOW--MATH WAS NEVER MY STRONG SUIT.

PUBLIC

"ALL I KNOW IS THAT SO FAR LONGSHOT'S *LUCK-SHIELD* IS THE ONLY THING THAT PROTEUS CAN'T SCREW WITH."

LISTEN, AH, WE REALLY SHOULD BE GOING.

YOU'VE MADE THIS PLACE CENTER STAGE FOR EVERY NEWSFEED IN TOWN.

QUIT HAVERIN', BOONE I M TRYIN' TAE HAVE A MOMENT HERE.

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO ATTACK A MEGA-CORP LIKE STARK-FUJIKAWA. THEY HAVE RESOURCES EVEN YOU SHOULD FEAR.

RIGHT NOW A KILL-TEAM OF CORPORATE RAIDERS IS PROBABLY EN ROUTE. OR MAYBE THEY'LL JUST ZAP US WITH AN ORBITAL LASER PLATFORM.

KRLLSH

LET 'EM TRY. NOTHIN' CAN TOUCH ME NOW.

MIND IF I CUT IN?

LONGSHOT?!

GET YUIR HANDS OFF HER!

STAY CLOSE, BLINK.

YOU... YOU'RE SHIELDING ME.

NOW WOULD BE A GOOD T.ME TO TELEPORT.

WAIT-!

BLOOONK

BLINK!

MISTER CREED! YOU'RE SAFE!

GOOD TO SEE YOU, TOO, PUP.

WHERE'S SPIDER-MAN?

HE SCRAMBLED UP THE BUILDING WHEN HE SAW LONGSHOT GO IN...

"...MUST'VE FELT GUILTY ABOUT LEAVING HIM STUCK ON THAT ROOF."

GET OUT OF MY FACE!

NOBODY ACTUALLY WATCHES THIS SPAM, ANYWAY.

ALCHEMAX
NEW YORK

SPIDER-MAN?!

I THOUGHT HE WAS *MY* PRIVATE PAIN IN THE BUTT. WHAT'S HIS GLITCH WITH STARK-FUJIKAWA?

BREAKING NEWS

STARK-FUJIKAWA
GLOBAL H.Q.
JAPAN

(HOW MUCH LONGER BEFORE YOU RECAPTURE MY BUILDING?)

(TWO MINUTES, FUJIKAWA-SAMA.)

(THE LONGER THIS GOES ON, THE FURTHER OUR STOCK DROPS.)

PIXEL CORP
AIRSHIP CICADA
SPAIN

¡CAPITAN! GET ME A TELEPRESENCE IN NEW YORK.

I SENSE *OPPORTUNITY* IN THE MIDST OF THIS DEBACLE.

CASTLE DOOM
LATVERIA

FASCINATING. I RETURN. AND *HE* RETURNS.

IS THIS SPIDER-MAN A *PRETENDER?* OR, LIKE MYSELF, THE *GENUINE ARTICLE* IN A NEW SET OF CLOTHES?

I MUST *OVERRIDE* A CAMERA AND GET A CLOSER LOOK

BREAKING NEWS

THAT SOUND... SUPERCHARGED HOVER-BIKES- MILITARY GRADE.

IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY SHOWED UP...

...SPECIALISTS FROM STARK-FUJIKAWA. JUST ONE OF THESE GUYS NEARLY KILLED ME A COUPLE WEEKS AGO..

OH, DEAR.

SKRIISH

...BUT I DOUBT ALL FOUR OF THEM HAVE A PRAYER AGAINST WHAT'S WAITING INSIDE.

KEEP YUR MELON DOWN, BOONE.

OOF

HULLO, LADS...

THWACK

...'FRAID I'M A BIT CROSS AT THE M.NUTE.

SKRANNG

NICE OF YE TAE HELP ME WORK THROUGH IT!

KLUDD

AH--!

FAPP

SHH! WE RE GETT NG OUT OF HERE

WHERE S BL NK AND LONGSHOT?

GONE. THEY--

WHAT'S THIS?

-URK-

THE SPIDER-MAN WANNABE AGAIN? THOUGHT I TOSSED YE ALL *OUT*.

Y'KNOW WE HAVE LOADS OF SPIDEY WANNABES IN MY *HOME* REALITY.

'COURSE, THE *REAL* SPIDER-MAN'S A FAMOUS WRESTLER NAMED *PETER PARKER*.

THAT WOULDNAE HAPPEN TAE BE *YUIR* NAME, NOW WOULD IT?

...NO.. WAIT...

STOP!

...YUIR NOT PARKER

MIGUEL O'HARA?!

FRIEND O' YUIRS?

HE'S MY BIGGEST RIVAL AT ALCHEMAX!

MIKE O'HARA, YOU NAUGHTY BOY...

...KEEPING SECRETS FROM ME.

BOONE...?

THAT'S TYLER STONE, ALCHEMAX C.E.O.

BOONE, TELL YOUR BIG GREEN FRIEND HE CAN DO BUSINESS WITH ME.

HE'S HERE SEEKING TECHNICAL HELP, MISTER STONE.

HE INHABITS BODIES, LIKE A HERMIT CRAB MOVING FROM SHELL TO SHELL. HE NEEDS TO STABILIZE SO HE WON'T KEEP BURNING OUT HOST-BODIES.

HE CAN ALSO **SUSPEND** FUNDAMENTAL LAWS OF PHYSICS **AT WILL.**

CHA-CHING! SIGN AN EXCLUSIVE, AND I'LL PUT THE WORLD'S GREATEST MINDS ON THE JOB.

ONCE WE UNDERSTAND YOUR ABILITIES, A **CURE** FOR YOUR CONDITION IS INEVITABLE.

HE LIES! **STARK-FUJIKAWA** HAS THE FINEST TECHNOLOGIES. AND YOU **OWE** US FOR PROPERTY DAMAGES.

THEY ARE **BOTH** FOOLS, SEÑOR. **PIXEL CORP** WILL EXCEED ANY OFFER BY TEN PERCENT.

THEY'LL **CHEAT** YOU AT THE FIRST OPPORTUNITY. YOU ALREADY TRUST **BOONE.** I'LL MAKE HIM **CHIEF** OF YOUR DIVISION

MISTER STONE! SOMEONE'S **PIRATING** A PUBLIC EYE CAM!

ALL OF THESE MEN WILL BETRAY YOU ONCE THEY GLEAN YOUR SECRETS.

I ALONE IN THIS PLUTOCRACY KNOW THE MEANING OF **HONOR.** COME TO LATVERIA AND WORK WITH ME.

VICTOR VON DOOM...?

IF YOU RECOGNIZE ME, THEN YOU KNOW DOOM'S GENIUS IS **UNRIVALED.**

...P-PROTEUS...

...YOU'RE SETTING YOURSELF UP...TO FAIL.

THEY'LL *ALL* LOOK FOR A WAY TO *CONTROL* OR *CONTAIN* YOU.

THEN YOU'RE A *LAB RAT* FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.

AN' WHAT MAKES YE SO *SURE?*

BECAUSE I *WORK* FOR ONE OF THEM!

YOUR NEW BEST BUDDY, TYLER STONE, SLIPPED ME THE WORLD'S MOST ADDICTIVE *DRUG* SO I WOULDN'T LEAVE HIS *STAFF!*

IS THIS *TRUE?*

WELL...O'HARA'S A *SPECIAL CASE.* HE WAS ALWAYS A TROUBLEMAKER, AND, UH, MISTER STONE HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO...

STOP ANGLING FOR YOUR COMMISSION AND *THINK,* BOONE!

VIRTUAL UNREALITY IS YOUR MEAL TICKET. YOU SPENT *YEARS* DEVELOPING A DIMENSIONAL PORTAL.

THIS GUY JUMPS DIMENSIONS ON *HIS OWN* POWER. IF STONE SIGNS HIM, YOUR PET PROJECT IS *REDUNDANT!*

HOLY SHOCK, HE'LL CANCEL *MY BUDGET!*

IT'S *TRUE*--ANY ONE OF THEM WILL MAKE YOU THEIR GUINEA PIG!

-HH-

THIS WAS A *MISTAKE*, COMIN' HERE.

WELL, AT LEAST THIS NEW SHELL O' MINE WILL *LAST*.

ENJOY YUIR NEW *FAME...!*

THANK YE FOR CUTTIN' THROUGH THE BLATHER, SPIDER-MAN.

THINK I'LL LET YE *LIVE* FOR THAT.

VVVV

WHERE'S PROTEUS?

GONE. HE REALIZED HE'D FIND NO PROFIT ON THIS WORLD, SO I THINK HE JUMPED TO THE NEXT ONE.

HEATHER, GET US OUTTA HERE.

WAIT!

TAKE ME WITH YOU.

BUT THIS ISN'T YOUR FIGHT.

I BEG TO DIFFER. PROTEUS BLEW MY COVER TO A GLOBAL AUDIENCE.

THE MINUTE YOU LEAVE, THESE GUYS WILL HUNT ME TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.

PLUS, I CONVINCED PROTEUS TO MOVE ON, SO I'M RESPONSIBLE FOR WHOMEVER HE HURTS NEXT.

I HAVE TO HELP YOU STOP HIM.

HEATHER? PLEASE EXTRACT DOCTOR O'HARA, TOO.

FAASSSH

THIS IS **YOUR** FAULT, BOONE! YOUR VIRTUAL **UNREALITY** PORTAL BROUGHT THAT MONSTER HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!

IS THIS TRUE?

EXPLAIN THIS "VIRTUAL UNREALITY."

IT SOUNDS LIKE A STABLE TRANS-DIMENSIONAL INTERFACE.

YES. THAT'S **EXACTLY** IT.

AND IF **ALCHEMAX** CAN'T SEE THE VALUE IN MY WORK, THEN THE BIDDING FOR MY SERVICES BEGINS AT **FIFTEEN MIL** A YEAR...

NEXT: WORLD SQUADRON SUPREME TOUR